

**Democratic Services**

Location: Phase II
Ext: 0692
DDI: 01895 250692
CMD No: 781

To: **OUNCILLOR MARTIN GODDARD
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**
**OUNCILLOR EDDIE LAVERY
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESIDENTS' SERVICES**
c.c. All Members of the Residents' Services Select Committee
c.c. Jamie Bell – Place Directorate
c.c. Perry Scott – Corporate Director of Place
c.c. Ward Councillors for Uxbridge

Date: 21 April 2023

Non-Key Decision request**Form D****CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT****DEPARTMENT:** Place**SERVICE AREA/ PROGRAMME:** Green Spaces – Playground Replacement Programme 2022/23 – 2026/27 – Refurbishment of the Children's Playground at Fassnidge Park.**RELEASE NO:** 1

Dear Cabinet Member

Attached is a report requesting that a decision be made by you as an individual Cabinet Member. Democratic Services confirm that this is not a key decision, as such, the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 notice period does not apply.

You should take a decision **on or after Tuesday 02 May 2023** in order to meet Constitutional requirements about publication of decisions that are to be made. You may wish to discuss the report with the Corporate Director before it is made. Please indicate your decision on the duplicate memo supplied, and return it to me when you have made your decision. I will then arrange for the formal notice of decision to be published.

Ryan Dell
Democratic Services Officer

Title of Report: Green Spaces – Playground Replacement Programme 2022/23 – 2026/27 – Refurbishment of the Children's Playground at Fassnidge Park. RELEASE NO: 1

Decision made:

Reasons for your decision: (e.g. as stated in report)

Alternatives considered and rejected: (e.g. as stated in report)

Signed Date

Cabinet Member for Finance / Cabinet Member for Residents' Services

CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Place

SERVICE AREA/ PROGRAMME: Green Spaces – Playground Replacement Programme

2022/23 – 2026/27 – Refurbishment of the Children’s Playground at Fassnidge Park.

RELEASE NO: 1

Cabinet Members	Councillor Martin Goddard Councillor Eddie Lavery
Cabinet Portfolios	Cabinet Member for Finance Cabinet Member for Residents’ Services
Officer Contact	Jamie Bell – Place Directorate
Papers with report	Appendix A with capital release requests for approval Appendix B with details of playground equipment

HEADLINES

Summary	To seek Cabinet Member approval for the release of capital funds for the refurbishment of Fassnidge Park Children’s Playground.
Putting our Residents First	This report supports our ambition for residents/ the Council of: Enjoy access to green spaces, leisure activities, culture and arts
Delivering on the Council Strategy 2022-2026	This report supports our commitments to residents of: A Green and Sustainable Borough
Financial Cost	This report seeks the release of £125k from the Playground Replacement Programme 2023/24 capital budget for the refurbishment of the children’s playground at Fassnidge Park. The works will commence upon release of the funds and are due for completion by July 2023
Relevant Select Committee	Residents’ Services Select Committee.
Ward affected	Uxbridge.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member for Finance and the Cabinet Member for Residents' Services agree to the following capital release requests of £125k from the Playground Replacement 2023/24 Programme capital budget for the refurbishment of the children's playground at Fassnidge Park (Appendix A).

Reasons for recommendation

The refurbishment of this playground is necessary due to it now reaching the end of its economic life. This has been identified by the safety inspections undertaken by RoSPA qualified Inspectors and engineers from our insurance company Zurich. This approach is supported by local residents and families using the site, this is evidenced through complaints and enquiries relating to its current condition.

This funding release is part of the Council's Playground refurbishment programme approved by Cabinet in November 2022 with a contract award to Kompan Ltd for the provision of the design, replacement and installation of playground equipment over a four-year period. The programme approved by Cabinet included this site.

Alternative options considered

The Cabinet Members could decide not to accept the recommendations. This would mean that the replacement of this playground would not be undertaken, risking a decline in visitor numbers to this busy Town Centre destination park, and resulting in claims against the Council due to non-compliant equipment.

Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The report is seeking the release of funds to refurbish the children's playground. This work will be carried out by the Council's approved contracted supplier, Kompan, who were recently awarded the tender for playground refurbishments across all Parks and Housing Playgrounds within the Borough.

Table 1: Cost Plan for the refurbishment of Fassnidge Park Playground

Project / Programme Cost plan	Amount £
Construction Works	114,000
Internal fees 10%	11,000
Total	125,000

Financial Implications

Budget £390k, Previously Released £NIL, Capital Release Requested £125k (Appendix A)

The 2023/24 Capital Programme approved by Cabinet and Council in February 2023 includes a capital budget for the Playground Replacement Programme of £390k.

This report is seeking the release of £125k for the refurbishment of the children's playground at Fassnidge Park. The release request is based on the estimated costs contained within the Council's approved term contractor for the provision of the design, replacement and installation of playground equipment for the London Borough of Hillingdon.

The remaining £265k for the Playground Replacement Programme will be subject to the capital release procedure.

RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION

The benefit or impact upon residents, service users and communities

The Council and its partners are committed to making the Borough a cleaner, greener and safer environment. The recommendation within this report will ensure that the refurbishment of this playground can progress to create a safer and fun play experience for local children as well as a meeting/ social space for parents and carers of young children to enjoy.

Consultation carried out or required

None.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance has reviewed the report and concurs with the financial implication set out above, noting that the recommended action to agree a release of £125k for the refurbishment of the children's playground at Fassnidge Park will be funded from the approved 2023/24 Playground Replacement Programme capital budget.

Legal

Legal Services confirm that the Council is responsible for carrying out this function pursuant to Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Thus, there are no legal impediments to the capital release being authorised, although any contract that is entered into must comply with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.

Infrastructure/ Asset Management

There are no Infrastructure/ Asset Management implications arising from this report.

Capital Release Protocol

The release of all capital funds, and certain revenue funds, held by the Council is to be made by a formal democratic decision. No expenditure can be placed or committed by officers until this formal approval is given by Democratic Services. Release of funds must be for identified projects only and strictly not for the general release of funds for projects to be identified at a later date. No block releases of capital or funding will be allowed, except if authorised by the Leader of the

Council in advance to Corporate Finance. The release of funds will only be made if previous Council, Cabinet or Cabinet Member agreement has been given to the project and only if there is an approved budget.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL.

APPENDIX A

Playground Replacement Programme 2023/24: Refurbishment of the Children's Playground at Fassnidge Park - Release No 1

Location	Project / Expenditure Title	Information	Funds Release Sought £000's	Approve	Hold	More Information Required
Fassnidge Park	Children's Playground – Fassnidge Park	Construction of a new children's playground at Cranford Park.	125			
Total seeking release			125			
Previously released			0			
Budget			390			
Remaining budget			265			

APPENDIX B

Playground Design

